GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2244
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2006
MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA
Appadurai Shri M.;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to stop providing military assistance to Sri Lanka as reported in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated November 19, 2006 ;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reasons therefor ;

(c) the details of military equipment provided to Sri Lanka as assistance alongwith the value of military equipment during the last three years; and

(d) the justification for providing military equipment and weapons to Sri Lanka ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (d) :Assistance of any kind to a friendly country is decided based on national interest.The cooperation with Sri Lanka in the field of defence includes training and exchange of visits between India and Sri Lanka. These are decided on the basis of Government's priority and availability of slots.